



October 15, 2004

Ms. Jan Palumbo, RCRA Project Manager
United States EPA, Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Mail Stop WCM-121
Seattle, WA 98101

Subject: **October 15, 2004, Progress Report**
J.H. BAXTER ARLINGTON FACILITY
Docket No. RCRA-10-2001-0086

Dear Ms. Palumbo:

This letter provides the October 15, 2004, progress report for work under the Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) for the J.H. Baxter & Co. (Baxter) facility during the period from September 15, 2004, to October 15, 2004.

Significant Developments This Period

This section discusses significant developments for the referenced reporting period, including actions performed and any problems encountered relative to work required by the AOC. Significant developments that occurred on this project during this reporting period are outlined below:

- During the weeks of October 4 and October 11, 2004, Baxter conducted groundwater sampling in accordance with the Site Investigation (SI), State Waste Discharge Permit (SWDP), and closed woodwaste landfill regulations.

Anticipated Developments Next Period

This section discusses developments anticipated during the next reporting period, as outlined below:

- Baxter will continue to implement elements of the SI Work Plan, including database compilation and data evaluation.



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Anticipated Problems and Problem Resolution

This section discusses anticipated problems, and planned resolution of past or anticipated problems.

No new problems or issues have been identified at the facility, other than those mentioned in previous progress reports.

Other Information

Any other information relevant to the AOC is discussed in this section, including results of any sampling or testing completed within the reporting period.

- Between September 30 and October 6, 2004, Baxter performed improvement measures in Ditch 1 and Ditch 2. The purpose of the improvement measures was to remove material with low levels of site-related chemicals from the ditches. These improvement measures were conducted under the provisions of Paragraph 63 of the AOC regarding other work at the facility. EPA approved of these improvement measures in a letter dated August 17, 2004.

Approximately 250 tons of material was excavated from Ditch 2 and placed in steel roll-off bins pending hazardous waste profiling and off site disposal. Approximately 100 tons of material was excavated from Ditch 1 and temporarily stored on-site in a lined soil pile pending laboratory analyses. Confirmation samples collected following excavation activities indicated that remaining material in the ditch was below EPA Region IX Preliminary Remediation Goals (PRGs) for pentachlorophenol, and soil samples demonstrated a trend of decreasing pentachlorophenol concentration with depth. A written report will be provided to EPA during the next reporting period.

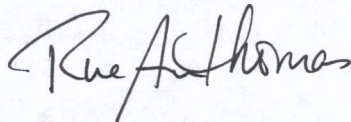
- On September 20, 2004, Baxter conducted Lysimeter sampling in accordance with the SWDP.
- On October 5, 2004, Baxter representatives met with Jennifer MacDonald and Cheryl Williams of USEPA Region 10 to discuss settlement of "In the Matter of J.H. Baxter & Co., Arlington, Washington EPA ID #WAID 053823019."
- Construction of the Stormwater Treatment System continued during the reporting period. All internal components of the system were delivered and set in place, piping has been initiated, and assembly of the building has been completed.

Certification

I certify that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to evaluate the information submitted. I certify that the

information contained in or accompanying this submittal is true, accurate and complete. As to those identified portions(s) of this submittal for which I cannot personally verify the accuracy, I certify that this submittal and all attachments were prepared in accordance with procedures designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those directly responsible for gathering the information, or the immediate supervisor of such person(s), the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

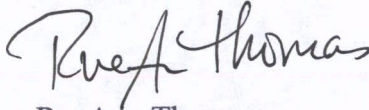
Signature:



Name: RueAnn Thomas
Title: Environmental Programs Director
Date: October 15, 2004

We trust this letter meets the intent of the Progress Report per Paragraph 71 of the AOC. If you have any questions, please contact me at (541) 689-3801.

Sincerely,



RueAnn Thomas
Environmental Programs Director

cc: Jeanne Tran, Ecology
Georgia Baxter, J. H. Baxter & Co.
Mary Larson, J. H. Baxter & Co.
J. Stephen Barnett, Premier Environmental Services, Inc.